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The Post Reaches Nearly 75 Percent More Black Readers

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## Labor Department Reports

# Nation's Black Unemployment Rate Reaches 12.8 Per Cent

### More Than 6 Million People Out Of Work

WASHINGTON — Black workers experienced a significant increase in joblessness during the month of December, as their unemployment rate moved up from 11.7 to 12.8 percent.

Overall, the Nation's unemployment continued to climb in December, and the number of persons with jobs declined for the third straight month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The total number of unemployed increased by 560,000 to 6.5 million, and the jobless rate reached 7.1 percent, the highest rate since May 1961.

Total employment (as measured by the monthly sample survey of households) fell by 550,000 in December to 85.2 million. This decline followed an employment reduction of 800,000 in November and brought employment to a level nearly 1.4 million lower than September's high mark.

The number of unemployed persons rose by 560,000 in December to more than 6.5 million. Much of this increase can be traced to layoffs, as the number of unemployed who had lost their last jobs rose by 360,000 to 3.2 million. Since December 1973, total joblessness has increased by more than 2 million.

After receding to a 3 1/2-year low of 4.6 percent in October 1973, the Nation's unemployment rate increased by 2.5 percentage points in the ensuing 14-month period. A small part of this increase took place during the "energy crisis" period last winter, but the bulk has occurred during the last 4 months, when the rate rose from 5.4 percent in August to its December level of 7.1 percent.

The rising joblessness affected virtually every worker group. Among the major age-sex groups, the unemployment rate for adult men rose from 4.6 percent in November to 5.1 percent in December, while joblessness among adult women climbed from 6.6 percent to 7.2 percent. Teenage unemployment also posted a further increase, from 17.3 to 18.3 percent.

The rate for white workers rose from 5.8 to 6.4 percent. The jobless rate for household heads moved up from 3.9 to 4.5 percent, while the rate for full-time workers rose from 6.2 to 6.8 percent; these were all-time highs for both series (which began in 1963). All of these groups have posted substantial increases in unemployment over their year-earlier levels.

The jobless rate for workers covered by state unemployment insurance programs increased to 4.7 percent, up from 4.3 percent in November and 2.7 percent in December 1973. The 3.1 million unemployment insurance claimants under state programs now account for close to half of the jobless total.

Among the major occupational groups, white-collar workers experienced a rise in joblessness to 4.1 percent in December, the highest rate recorded for this group since occupational statistics were first recorded on a monthly basis in 1958.

The job market for blue-collar workers continued to deteriorate (their rate moving from 8.2 to 9.4 percent) as did the situation for manufacturing and construction workers among the major industry categories. The manufacturing jobless rate, at 8.6 percent in December, was double the December 1973 figure; factory joblessness was boosted substantially by heavy layoffs in the auto industry. At 15.0 percent, the construction unemployment rate reached its highest level since 1961.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam-era veterans aged 20-34 years jumped nearly 2 percentage points in December to 7.7 percent, bringing it back up to approximately the rate for non-veterans (8.0 percent). Young veterans (those 20-24 years old) were particularly hard hit, as their rate reached 15.3 percent, compared with 10.4 percent for young non-veterans.

### Emergency Jobs Applications Being Accepted

The City of Charlotte will serve approximately fifty-four individuals under its Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Program. All individuals will be hired during the first month of operation.

Individuals participating in CETA Title VI (The Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1971) will participate in one of the following projects in the City of Charlotte:

The Unemployment Insurance Claims project will reduce the waiting time of applicants filing unemployment insurance claims; thereby enabling more applicants to be processed for unemployment insurance.

The City Improvement and Public Beautification Project will improve the physical appearance of the City of Charlotte. This project will involve painting of fire hydrants, governmental buildings and additional street surfacing.

The Housing Rehabilitation Project will provide housing repair assistance to low income families who have purchased "as is" FHA foreclosed housing units through Motion, Inc. This project will provide technical assistance as well as manpower to help families participating in Motion, Inc.'s low income homeowners program to have safe and standard dwelling units.

The Tutorial Program will provide tutorial services to disadvantaged students with emphasis on reading and mathematics. This project is designed to increase the reading and mathematical skills of these students so that they can perform satisfactorily at their respective grade levels.

In order to qualify for the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance of 1974, one shall, to the maximum extent feasible, be an (1) unemployed person who has exhausted his/her unemployment insurance benefits; (2) unemployed person who is not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits (except persons lacking work experience).

See Emergency on page 11



ALLURING FREDA BROOME ...Central Piedmont student

## Freda Broome Is Our Beauty

By POLLY MANNING Post Staff Writer

We present this week, Miss Freda Broome a 20-year-old student at Central Piedmont Community College, as our "Beauty of the Week."

Freda is the daughter of Mrs. Carrie Broome of Pineville, N. C.

Miss Broome is a 1972 graduate of West Charlotte Senior High School. While attending West Charlotte, the lovely, 5-foot, 108-pounder was a member of the Girls Athletic Association, a Pep Girl, played on the Volley Ball Team and ran track.

She and her family attends Big Pineville A.M.E. Zion Church where Rev. Thomas is the pastor. Freda serves on the usher board at the church.

For fun things, our Beauty enjoys dancing, swimming, and anything that has to do with sports.

At Central Piedmont Freda is studying to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. "I feel that I can help others who can't help themselves in pursuing the field of nursing. I will complete my training for Licensed Practical Nursing in September. In October I am going back to complete the course for Practical Nursing. When I complete my training I plan to stay in Charlotte and practice. I will feel as if I'm helping my community as well as the people of my hometown," stated Miss Broome.

Our 34-24-34 Beauty is the mother of a one year old son, Freddie Deltwan. "He will be two in April," beamed Freda. Would you believe he is an April's Fool Baby?

Besides going to school she spends most of her time with Freddie. "He just loves the outdoors so we spend a lot of time outside. We play games and go to the park, and I love to take him just about everywhere I go. I take him to Basketball games and he simply seems to love it."

Freda is born under the sign of Virgo. When asked to describe them she found it very complicated. She stated that Virgos are so unpredictable that it's really difficult to describe them.

The someone special in the life of our Beauty is Freddie Purdue. When asked why Freddie was so special she commented, "My son is the obvious reason."

Miss Broome has two brothers and two sisters. "It's not really a large family but we are very close. I feel that if we as Blacks are ever going to get closer it should first start with the family. If we can't get along with our family, how are we going to get along with other people?"

## USDA Will Issue New Food Stamp

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will replace the current 50 cent, \$2 and \$5 food stamp series with a \$1, \$5, and \$10 series on March 1, 1975.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) said that the larger denominations were prompted by the volume of coupons needed to meet increased food stamp allotments, paper shortages, and increased production and shipping costs.

The new food stamps — brown (\$1), purple (\$5), and blue-green (\$10) — use a more sophisticated design to deter counterfeiting. They are incorporated into redesigned, revalued coupon books.

All current coupons not issued by Feb. 28, 1975, will be collected and destroyed.

## Tax Supervisor Mails

### 137,000 Listing Forms

The Mecklenburg County Tax Supervisor's Office has begun its annual City-County personal property tax listing.

A listing of all motor vehicles, boats and household furnishings must be filed with the Mecklenburg County Tax Supervisor by January 31, or a penalty must be charged.

Unless you are a new resident of Mecklenburg, you should receive your tax listing form by January 10. Approximately 137,000 forms have been mailed. Newcomers and those who have not received their forms by January 10 should request them from the Tax Supervisor's Office at 720 East Fourth Street.

Tax Supervisor Robert P. Alexander says that tax list takers are in the town clerk offices in Matthews, Pineville, Cornelius, Huntersville and Davidson and are available to help those who need assistance with their listing.

Alexander reminded elderly persons that they must make an annual application for their partial exemption. Applications for this exemption have been mailed with the tax listing form. Property tax relief for the elderly includes personal property as well as real property.

## WTVI Series To

### Explore CMS's

### Business Side

Who takes care of brooms, books and buses; of grass, greasetraps and general contractors; of termites, telephones and teaspoons; of payrolls, potatoes and prowlers?

The business side of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) is big business. Few realize the extent of "strictly business" operation it takes to support the students and teachers in schools.

The many activities of the CMS Business Services Division will be explored in the third program of the WTVI series, "Your Schools In Action."

John A. "Gus" Campbell, associate superintendent for business services, will host the program which includes a movie and slide survey of all his division's activities.

The half-hour program will be broadcast at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 21 on WTVI, Channel 42, the CMS educational television station.

## Curtis Leak

# Charlotte Youth Signs Football Contract With The Houston Oilers

By BILL JOHNSON Post Manager-Editor

Curtis Leak, 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Paschal of 2005 Double Oaks Road, has signed a professional football contract with the Houston Oilers of the American Football Conference in the National Football League.

"It's like having a life-long dream to come true," beamed the 5-foot, 11-inch halfback who was a standout football player for Central Piedmont Community College last fall. Leak scored 67 points while rushing for more than 1,000 yards to lead the CPCC Outlaws to a perfect 11-0 record. The unbeaten Outlaws won the championship of the North Carolina Conference of Club Football.

The youngster, who has been clocked at 4.3 for the 40 yards, expects to be converted to a wide receiver post if he wins a

position with Houston team. "The scout told me that he liked my speed and that he felt that I would be more valuable to the team as a flanker," the soft-spoken young man, who is a student at Johnson C. Smith University, said Monday afternoon.

He will report to the Oilers' training camp in early March. However, he is not waiting until that time to get in tip-top condition. Working out under the supervision of Harold Clawson, principal at Steele Creek Elementary School, Leak's daily workout schedule consists of jogging until early February when he will get into what he calls "my heavy schedule." The heavy schedule includes running the 100, 220 and 440, lifting weights, cross country and several other conditioning exercises.

"I want to have strong legs

him to improve his quickness, a prime prerequisite for wide receivers.

When asked why did he sign with Houston, Leak quickly replied that, "they were the only ones to offer me something concrete." He also had offers from the Southern California Suns, the Shreveport Steamers and the Charlotte Hornets of the World Football League and the Buffalo Bills of the NFL.

How are his chances for winning a position with the Oilers? "All I ask for is a chance to show that I am good enough to play with the pros," concluded Leak, who stated that he would encourage the younger kids to "stay in school for the opportunities are there. We just have to pay the



WILLIE J. HOLMES ...Motion's Associate Director

## Motion Office Is "Helping People"

The Director of the local Office of Housing Information has announced that his office is busy and actively helping people in the Charlotte area find housing.

Bob Acree, who operates out of the Independence Plaza Building commonly called the "Black Doctor's Building", said that his office is currently servicing from 25 to 30 people daily.

The office is a division of Motion, Incorporated. "Motion, once meant the Model Cities Organization To Improve Our Neighborhoods. The purpose of the organization is to provide low income housing for people of the Model Cities Community," said Acree.

Acree said his office's duty is to disseminate housing information to individuals on the grass roots level. He is presently thinking about enlarging the office.

He said that Motion has received a "firm" commitment from HUD to provide more funds. Negotiations are under way for the proposed Orchard Park and Greenhaven projects.

The Orchard Park unit will be 39 units and the Greenhaven complex 42 units. Locations have not been determined at this time.

"Individuals without housing should contact me," said Bob Acree. "I am serving as a housing ombudsman. I will work directly with families and major landlords in an effort to provide standard housing in the Charlotte Community."

They receive referrals from United Community Services

See Motion on page 11



CURTIS LEAK ...Top football player

price.....work hard and be ready to take advantage of the opportunities when they come your way."



Being able to see BOTH SIDES of anything DOESN'T necessarily mean that one has DOUBLE VISION.